मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में शिक्षा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुही राम सैकिया): (क) से (ग) नवोदय विद्यालय योजना के मूल में निहित विचार प्रतिभावान ग्रामीण बच्चों को कोटिपरक शिक्षा प्रदान करने के लिए प्रत्येक जिले में एक विद्यालय की स्थापना करने का था। इस विचार को अधिकांशतः मूर्त रूप दे दिया गया है। अब तक 389 विद्यालयों को संस्वीकृत किया जा चुका है। वर्तमान दाखिला आंकड़ों से पता चलता है कि अधिकांश छात्र ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों से हैं और अनुसूचित जातियों/अनुसूचित जनजातियों के छात्रों का नामांकन निर्धारित स्तर से काफी ऊपर है। कक्षा 10 और कक्षा 12 में नवोदय विद्यालयों के छात्रों के शैक्षिक परिणाम के॰मा॰शि॰बो॰ के राष्ट्रीय औसत से बेहतर है।

(घ) से (च) पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान राजस्थान में नवोदय विद्यालयों के संबंध में अलग-अलग स्वरूप की शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं। इनकी छानबीन तीव्रता से की गयी और कार्रवाई की गयी। समिति भी विद्यालयों के कार्यकलापों का गहन मानीटरिंग कर रही है।

Reservation Policy of KVS

4542. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while filling vacancies of different categories of employees, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan divides the total available vacancies as per percentage prescribed for SC, ST and OBC and leaves 50.5% vacancies for unreserved categories;

(b) if so, does it not debar reserve category candidates to get selected from unreserve quota; and

(c) if so, the rationale thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) In the matter of reservation in service the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan follows the general instruction of the Government of India, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension, applicable to all Central Government employees. There is no bar on candidates from reserved category being selected against general vacancies, based on merit.

Need for Industry-friendly Education

4543. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have realised the need for an Industry-friendly education in India in view of the acute shortage of a faculty in the management discipline;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government are also reviewing their policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has initiated an Institute-Industry interaction scheme for close collaboration between the technical institutions and industries in selected areas of technical education. Interaction with the Industries is maintained for planning, promotion and regulation of technical and management education in the country. The norms and standards laid down by the AICTE for management courses include, *inter alia*, provision of visiting faculty from both the academia and industry having adequate qualification and experience in the specialised branches besides the core faculty to cover the programmes.

Standard of Education in Kendriya Vidyalayas

4544. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the increasing number of students in the classes is adversely affecting the standard of education in the Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the prescribed norms regarding the limit of maximum number of students in each of the sections of a class in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(c) whether the total number of students in each of the section of a class ranges from 55 to 70 in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Shalimar Bagh;

(d) if so, the reasons for admitting such a large number of students in one section; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce the number of students in a section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (b) The standard of education in a vidyalaya depends on a number of factors like the quality of academic activities, location, availability of teachers, infrastructural facilities, class strength etc. Generally admission in a class is restricted to 35 in Kendriya Vidyalayas.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Higher strength is due to the higher demand for admission in this school.

(e) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan sanctions additional sections to reduce the number of students per class, subject to availability of funds and other infrastructural facilities.

Steps taken to ahieve total Literacy

4545. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had said on 24th April, 1997 that "that country's rulers failed the people in the field of education";

(b) if so, the action initiated by him to provide adequate funds for total literacy in the country; and

(c) the steps taken to achieve total literacy by the end of the century at the latest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) The Government have taken up in hand a time bound Adult Education Programme aimed at achieving Total Literacy by the year 2005 A.D. The principal strategy of the programme is the launching of Total/ Post Literacy Campaigns which are area specific, time-bound, outcome-oriented and volunteer-based. The campaigns are implemented by the Zilla Saksharata Samitis usually headed by the District Collector. National Literacy Mission authorities and State literacy mission authorities provide the necessary directions and support to the programme. 428 districts have been covered under the Total Literacy Campaigns and 188 of them have entered the Post Literacy phase. The budget allocation of Rs. 127 crores has been made for the Adult Education programme during the year 1997-98.

Unmanned level crossing in Tamil Nadu

4546. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unmanned level crossing in the Southern Railway passing through Tamil Nadu;

(b) the number of crossing proposed to be closed down to avoid accidents on such crossings; and

(c) the number of crossings proposed to be closed down between Kanya Kumari and Tirunevelly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) 1381.

(b) 22.

(c) Nil.